

Message Text

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SUBJECT: HABITAT - SUGGESTED MODIFICATIONS TO DRAFTING
COMMITTEE REPORT ON AGENDA

REF: SCHIFF/KLEIN TELCON

DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR CONVEYING TO HABITAT
CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT US COMMENTS ON THE REPORT ON THE
AGENDA PREPARED BY THE PREP COM DRAFTING COMMITTEE. THE
NUMBERED PARAGRAPHS BELOW ARE KEYED TO THE DRAFTING COMMIT-
TEE REPORT AS FOLLOWS:

I. OBJECTIVES

AS WE SUGGESTED IN THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION DISCUSSION,
WE BELIEVE THE OBJECTIVES SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE DIS-
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CUSSION OF DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES. WHILE WE MAY WANT

TO SUGGEST SPECIFIC DRAFTING CHANGES AT A LATER DATE, WE WOULD PROPOSE ONE ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE LIST OF OBJECTIVES (PRINCIPLES) - I.E., QUOTE BY IMPROVING THE PERCEPTION OF THE INTERRELATIONSHIP OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROBLEMS AND ACTIONS. END QUOTE

II. ISSUES

WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT THE ISSUE BE USED IN TWO WAYS. FIRST, IT APPEARS THAT THEY MIGHT BE USED TO GIVE MORE FOCUS TO THE TOPICS WHICH, IN OUR VIEW, WILL HAVE TO BE COMPRESSED IF WE ARE TO HAVE A MANAGEABLE AGENDA. SECONDLY, THEY CAN BE USED BY GOVERNMENTS, TO THE EXTENT THEY ARE RELEVANT TO EACH ONE'S SITUATION, IN THE PREPARATION OF NATIONAL REPORTS.

WE WOULD PROPOSE A FEW ADDITIONAL ISSUES:

1) FAILURE TO ESTABLISH RATIONAL PRIORITY-SETTING MECHANISMS.

2) INADEQUATE ATTENTION TO PSYCHOLOGICAL AND PERCEPTUAL EFFECTS OF URBAN DESIGN.

3) CONSERVATION AND REVITALIZATION OF EXISTING URBAN AREAS AND PRESERVATION OF HISTORICAL AREAS.

WE WOULD ALSO SUGGEST CLARIFICATION AND/OR SLIGHT ELABORATION OF CERTAIN OF THE SUGGESTED ISSUES IN THE WORKING PARTY DRAFT.

1) QUOTE LACK OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE NATURE OF SETTLEMENTS AND NEW SOCIAL ROLES PARTICULARLY THAT OF WOMEN. END QUOTE THIS MIGHT BE MODIFIED TO INDICATE THAT WHAT IS MEANT IS THE DELAYED RESPONSE OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS INSTITUTIONS, SERVICES AND FACILITIES TO SOCIAL CHANGE.

2) QUOTE LACK OF PARTICIPATION. END QUOTE WE WOULD RECOMMEND CLARIFYING THIS AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE LACK OF CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT IN PUBLIC DECISION MAKING PROCESSES. UNCLASSIFIED

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END QUOTE

III. MAJOR THEMES AND TOPICS

1. NATIONAL SETTLEMENT POLICIES AND DEVELOPMENT

A) WE WOULD SUGGEST THIS BE MODIFIED TO READ:
QUOTE THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN POPULATION GROWTH,

POPULATION DISTRIBUTION AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS. END QUOTE

B) WE SUGGEST THAT QUOTE NATIONAL END QUOTE BE
REPLACED BY QUOTE GOVERNMENTAL (NATIONAL AND LOCAL).
END QUOTE

C) SAME SUGGESTION AS B) ABOVE. IN ADDITION, WE
WOULD PROPOSE THE ELIMINATION OF THE PHRASE QUOTE INDIVIDUAL
SUBSIDIES END QUOTE SINCE THIS CAN BE SUBSUMED UNDER FINAN-
CING AND LEGISLATION.

D) MODIFY PARA 1(E) TO READ AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE
STIMULATION OF SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENT THROUGH INDUSTRIAL
LOCATION, NEW GROWTH POLES AND INNER CITY REVITALIZATION.
END QUOTE

2. SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

WE BELIEVE THE SUGGESTED TOPICS NEED TO BE SUBSTANTIALLY
REVISED, FIRST TO GIVE PROPER ATTENTION TO THE ECONOMIC
ASPECTS; SECONDLY TO ACHIEVE GREATER SELECTIVITY AND
COHERENCE AS REGARDS THE SOCIAL ASPECTS AND THIRDLY, TO
BRING OUT THE INTERRELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOCIAL AND ECONO-
MIC.

3. PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF SETTLEMENTS

WE WOULD SUGGEST THE INCLUSION UNDER BOTH A AND B OF
QUOTE INSTITUTIONS, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE. END QUOTE

WE WOULD ALSO SUGGEST THAT C MIGHT BE MODIFIED TO READ AS
FOLLOWS: QUOTE EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOR PLANNING,
MANAGEMENT AND THEIR INTEGRATION. END QUOTE
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4. DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION, ETC.

WE ASSUME THAT QUOTE SHELTER END QUOTE WAS INADVERTENTLY
OMITTED FROM (E) AND THAT (E) SHOULD READ AS FOLLOWS:
HUMAN, FINANCIAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES FOR THE PROVISION
OF SHELTERS, INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES AND SERVICES.

5. HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

WE APPRECIATE THAT THE PREP COM AGREED ON THE THEMES AS THEY
APPEARED IN THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE REPORT. HOWEVER, WE
SHARE THE RESERVATIONS EXPRESSED BY OTHER DELEGATIONS IN
NEW YORK ABOUT THE SEPARATION OF THE NATURAL AND MANMADE
ENVIRONMENT. WE WOULD THEREFORE SUGGEST THAT WHEN THE

SECRETARY GENERAL CIRCULATES THE REVISED DRAFT, HE INCLUDE
A RECOMMENDATION TO MEMBER GOVERNMENTS THAT THIS THEME BE
CALLED - QUOTE ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS.
END QUOTE

- -
WE WOULD PROPOSE A MODIFICATION OF THE WORDING OF 5(B) TO
READ AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND THEIR INTER-
RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT. END QUOTE

WE WOULD ALSO PROPOSE THE ADDITION OF THE FOLLOWING UNDER
5(B): 5(B)(4) - ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT ASSESSMENT; 5(B)(5) - CONTRIBUTION OF LAND USE
PLANNING TO EFFICIENT HUMAN SETTLEMENTS; 5(B)(6) - CONTRI-
BUTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY TO HUMAN SETTLEMENTS.

THERE ARE A COUPLE MORE GENERAL SUGGESTIONS WE WOULD
LIKE TO MAKE. ONE COMMENT MADE BY SEVERAL DELEGATIONS IN
NEW YORK WAS THAT, AS DRAFTED, THE REPORT GIVES INSUFFI-
CIENT ATTENTION TO RURAL SETTLEMENTS. WE SHARE THIS VIEW.
SINCE THE HEALTH AND VITALITY OF RURAL SETTLEMENTS ARE
INTIMATELY RELATED TO CHANGES IN AGRICULTURE (FROM
PRODUCTION THROUGH MARKETING), WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT
EXPLICIT REFERENCE TO THIS SUBJECT MIGHT BE INCLUDED
EITHER AS A NEW TOPIC (F) UNDER NATIONAL SETTLEMENT
POLICIES AND DEVELOPMENT OR POSSIBLY BE INCLUDED UNDER
SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF SETTLEMENTS.

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WE BELIEVE THE REFERENCES TO INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES
INCLUDED UNDER THE FOURTH THEME SHOULD BE MADE MORE
PRECISE. NOWHERE IS THERE EXPLICIT MENTION OF TRANSPOR-
TATION DESPITE ITS ENORMOUS IMPORTANCE. WE THINK THIS IS
AN OMISSION WHICH OUGHT TO BE REMEDIED. MOREOVER, AND
ESPECIALLY GIVEN THE INTEREST IN BOTH SOCIAL AND ENVIRON-
MENTAL CONCERNS, WE OUGHT TO MENTION MORE SPECIFICALLY
THINGS LIKE: HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE DELIVERY
SYSTEMS AND, WHETHER ENVISAGED AS PART OF INFRASTRUCTURE
OR SERVICES, PROVISION OF WATER, POWER AND WASTE DISPOSAL.

FINALLY, WE BELIEVE THERE IS A CONFUSION IN IV. APPROACH
TO SOLUTIONS, WHICH SHOULD BE ELIMINATED. IT IS OUR UNDER-
STANDING THAT THIS PARTICULAR SECTION OF THE PAPER IS
INTENDED AS A GUIDE FOR THE PREPARATION OF NATIONAL
REPORTS AND NATIONAL PRESENTATIONS.

TO MAKE CLEAR THAT THIS IS INDEED THE CASE, WE SUGGEST
THE FOLLOWING CHANGES:

IV-1 - DELETION OF THE PHRASE - QUOTE A REVIEW OF
EXPERIENCE IN OTHER COUNTRIES. END QUOTE

IV-4 - STRIKE OUT ALL FOLLOWING THE FIRST SENTENCE
AND ADD THE FOLLOWING: QUOTE EMPHASIS SHOULD BE PLACED
ON IDENTIFYING THE PARTICULAR POLICIES CHOSEN AND WHY
THOSE POLICIES WERE SELECTED. END QUOTE

IV-5 - SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING - QUOTE THIS STEP
WOULD BE A COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION OF THE COUNTRY'S
EXPERIENCE AS A RESULT OF THE POLICY CHOICES MADE AND
DESCRIBED IN IV-4 ABOVE. END QUOTE

IV-6 - DELETE - QUOTE A CONSIDERATION OF THE RELEVANCE
TO OTHER COUNTRIES OF THE PROBLEM ANALYSES AND POSSIBLE
SOLUTIONS. END QUOTE INGERSOLL

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